

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

(Foreign Agent Involved)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

ARTICLE JOINT PURCHASE SYSTEM USING NETWORK

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

☒ was filed on November 30, 2005 as United States Application Number or PCT InternationalApplication Number PCT/JP2005/021993 and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d) or §365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or §365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)**Priority Claimed**

<u>2005-193023</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>30/06/2005</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

_____	_____
(Number)	(Filing Date)
_____	_____
(Number)	(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C., § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

(Appln. Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status --patented/pending/aban.)
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(Appln. Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status --patented/pending/aban.)
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The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from my _____ representatives, _____, as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorney or agent named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

I hereby appoint the practitioners associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to that Customer Number:

Customer Number 000826

DIRECT ALL TELEPHONE CALLS TO: Donald M. Hill, Jr.

Registration No. 40,646

Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Inventor's Signature: Hideo Kawawaki Date: June 26, 2006

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